The Mount celebrates groundbreaking for new cafeteria, commons

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Sisters of Mercy, Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School and honored guests officially broke ground Thursday on a cafeteria and commons area on the campus of Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School in southwest Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma’s longest standing high school, Mount Saint Mary, announced it had surpassed its most ambitious fundraising initiative in history with the completion of Phase I of the Higher Ground campaign, raising beyond the original $4.4 million goal. The 36-month campaign concluded in October, concentrating private support toward campus facility expansion at the 112-year-old landmark institution.

The project will create a new, 11,000-square-foot building to replace the current cramped cafeteria that seats 80 students. The new building will seat 300 students, have two serving lines, a coffee shop and a salad bar. The current 524-square-foot kitchen will expand to 1,884 square feet.

“I am delighted by the archdiocese’s deep involvement in the life and mission of Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School,” said The Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City. “The growth and progress that this historic event represents is a demonstration that this cherished school is moving in a direction that will provide families of Oklahoma City and the surrounding communities a strong, viable and sustaining Catholic education for years to come. Mount Saint Mary has a treasured past, but thanks to the generosity of so many, an even brighter future.”

Talita DeNegri, principal of Mount Saint Mary, added, “We are able to look back upon what we’ve accomplished here at The Mount with feelings of fulfillment, joy, comfort and confidence. We are grateful for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and The Sisters of Mercy’s partnership that has guided us in the past and now guides us into the future. Sister Pat Coward of the community leadership team of the Sisters of Mercy South Central Community, joined Archbishop Coakley and Archbishop Emeritus Beltran at the groundbreaking. “Inspiring bold thinking begins with a solid foundation. Throughout its history, Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School has laid a keystone to provide its students with an excellent faith-based, college-preparatory education. The Mount is a faith community serving our students and their families with an exceptional Christ-centered Catholic education.”

Mayor Mick Cornett said, “You cannot discuss the history of Oklahoma City without mentioning Mount Saint Mary High School. It was one of the first educational institutions that this city had. As people continue to repopulate downtown and this area, it’s fulfilling to see MSM awarded for its loyalty and commitment to this part of Oklahoma City.”

The Mount is a faith community serving our students and their families with an exceptional Christ-centered Catholic education. For more information and how to enroll, go online to www.mountstmary.org.

Catholic Charities opens new main services building

Catholic Charities’ new main services building at 1232 N. Classen Blvd. in Oklahoma City is officially open to facilitate services to the community.

The agency’s colorful logo – a lotus centered on the Cross of Christ – adorns the building’s south-facing wall as a symbol to passersby of Catholic Charities’ many social service programs.

“The new building will strengthen our services across the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and enhance operations at each of our regional locations in Ardmore, Clinton, Enid, Guymon and Lawton,” said Patrick Raglow, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The 33,860-square-foot, two-story structure was designed by Mass Architects Inc. to fit existing program needs while allowing for growth. Besides addressing Catholic Charities’ increasing need for space, the building also fits requirements for people with disabilities, enabling the organization to serve more clients in-house.

continued on Page 3

continued on Page 8
On Sunday, May 8, I had the privilege of presiding at Mass Thanksgiving at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Tulsa in gratitude for Bishop Edward Slattery’s 50 years of priestly ministry.

Bishop Slattery was ordained a priest on April 26, 1966, for the Archdiocese of Chicago where he served in a variety of pastoral assignments, including many years as president of the Catholic Extension Soci- ety. He was also a bishop of Tulsa and on the Epiphany of the Lord in January 1998, Pope John Paul II bestowed upon him his episcopal ordination at Saint Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Tulsa.

For the past 22 years, Bishop Slattery has been a good shepherd guiding the Church in eastern Okla- homa. As all bishops must do upon reaching the age of 75, Bishop Slattery has submitted his letter of resignation to Pope Francis and now awaits the Holy Father’s acceptance of that resigna- tion. It has been a joy to collaborate with Bishop Slattery’s successor. That could be imminent.

He, in his turn, has been a good steward of the gifts bestowed upon him his episcopal ordination at Saint Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Mexico (in English and Spanish).

Archbishop Slattery has helped strengthen the Church in eastern Oklahoma in a ra- dio partnership with Stations of the Cross, a radio ministry to the deaf people. The partnership has been especially useful during 2020-2021. It has been a joy to collaborate with Bishop Slattery’s successor. That could be imminent.

“Looking back at my time here, I can honestly say that Bishop Slattery has made a difference in our diocese. He has promoted the virtues of mercy and charity. He has also been a strong advocate for the protection of the unborn. He has been a strong voice for Life. He has been a steadfast friend to the faithful. He has been a true shepher- d of the flock,” said Father Alphonse, a priest of the diocese.

Bishop Slattery has been a good shepherd guiding the Church in eastern Oklahoma in a radio partnership with Stations of the Cross, a radio ministry to the deaf people. The partnership has been especially useful during 2020-2021.

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He, in his turn, has been a good steward of the gifts bestowed upon him his episcopal ordination at Saint Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Mexico (in English and Spanish).
Pilgrimages to archdiocesan Holy Doors of Mercy

During the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the opportunity to encounter the incorruptible Mercy of God has been made available by Archbishop Cordy for pilgrims to eight “Holy Doors of Mercy” sites in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. As part of a work in the spiritual enrichment section of the Circle of Life program, Court Saint Mary ( Guthrie) of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas has taken up the challenge.

For more information, contact Gloria Belair at (405) 649-2421, (405) 836-3408, or via email at gbelair@archokc.org. Among the eight mercy sites are: the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the diocesan Office of Mercy, and the Office of Laity, Family, Life, and Respect Life.

Church celebrates Pentecost, feast of Corpus Christi

By Ted King, The Catholic Herald of Oklahoma City

On Sunday, May 29, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be hosting the Corpus Christi Procession in Oklahoma City, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The procession will conclude at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The procession will conclude at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The feast of Corpus Christi, commemorating the糟糕的feast of Corpus Christi, marks the day on which Jesus commanded his apostles to go out into the world and proclaim his Gospel. The procession begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and concludes at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with Mass and the blessing of the Blessed Sacrament. The procession will conclude at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The procession will conclude at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

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One of the highest ranking Amer- icans in the Vatican, Archbishop Peter B. Wells, was in Tulsa in April for a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Family Cathedral.

Archbishop Wells was born in Tulsa, Okla., in 1953, a pupil of the Diocese of Tulsa and, as such, was a student at the Pontifical Lateran University and the Gregorian University, which are often in modern parlance known as the Vatican and the Vatican, respectively. He obtained his licentiate in International Law and Diplomacy in the Pontifical Lateran University in 1974, a Master of Arts degree in Canonical Law (J.C.L.) at the Pontifical Urbi et Orbi University in 1976 and received his doctorate in Canon Law (S.T.L.) at the Pontifical Urbaniana University in 1979.

Archbishop Wells was ordained a priest in Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome in 1981 and became a student at the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, an elite, prestigious seminary founded in the early 19th century.

Archbishop Wells is currently the success- tor of the Diocese of Tulsa in 1991, and served as a curate from 1992 to 1995. In 1996, then Father Wells was called to Rome to be- come a bishop. After his appointment to Oklahoma in 1996, he also completed graduate studies in Canon Law at Catholic University where he received his licentiate in Canon Law (J.C.L.). He also completed graduate studies at both Oklahoma City University and the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond. Father Schwartz devoted 54 years in active ministry to the people of Oklahoma, serving as assistant pastor at Corpus Christi, Oklahoma City. He served as pastor of Saint William, Shawnee, and Saint Monica, Oklahoma City. He served as pastor of Saint William, Skia- ner, a student at the Pontifical Lateran University and the Gregorian University, which are often in modern parlance known as the Vatican and the Vatican, respectively. He obtained his licentiate in International Law and Diplomacy in the Pontifical Lateran University in 1974, a Master of Arts degree in Canonical Law (J.C.L.) at the Pontifical Urbi et Orbi University in 1976 and received his doctorate in Canon Law (S.T.L.) at the Pontifical Urbaniana University in 1979.

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The Mount celebrates groundbreaking for new cafeteria, commons

continued from Page 1

The Mount Saint Mary’s groundbreaking is the first phase of the campus master plan and will be used to build a new student commons and new kitchens. The current cafeteria will be renovated and additional storage space and bathrooms will be added. An outdoor plaza area will be fashioned on the west side of the building replacing a portion of the parking lot between the gym and the new construction, along with an outdoor plaza area on the east side of the new commons. In addition, the old red brick building with its different names and functions through the years (Ms. Cunyan’s Room, Sister Betty’s Garage, band room, locker room and most recently, robotics room) will be torn down to make way for this facility expansion and upgrade. For more information, go online to www.mountsaintmary.org.

Forgive offenses

A Spiritual Work of Mercy from heart of Christ

By Alverno M outbreak Marshall

Associate Director, Office of Hispanic Ministry

This work is connected with the heart of Christ’s redemptive action. This means that when giving and receiving forgiveness we make Christ present on his most identifiable trait connected with the liberation he came to bring: reconciliation.

Forgive means etymologically “to give with intensity.” In verse the preface “for” many times implies intensity; So, forgiveness is an intense or generous donation or gift. Something big that is donated as a freely given gift or offering. True forgiveness gives to another and does not retain or hold back because of its intensity. Sincerity in liturgy in the Old Testament mentions a grandson of Adam, called Lamech, son of Cain. This symbolizes malice, resentment and revenge taken to the extreme. He tells his wives:

“I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for bruising me. If Cain is avenge seven times, then Lamech 77 times” (Genesis 4:23 – 24).

This would be what Jesus Christ had on His mind when He tells Peter to forgive 70 times 7 (Matthew 18:21 to 22).

It is forgiving that neutralizes and breaks the power of evil. Only forgiveness allows the healthy evolution of society and civilization. We know that sometimes it is not easy. Sometimes it can take years until we are free from the pain of the damage brought by others or inflicted on others. And, only then do we consider that we are ready to release our pain and let “free” those who have offended us and hurt us. And, we need to free ourselves too, our own offenses inflicted on our- selves also need forgiveness.

Forgiveness has degrees and also effects that are easier depending on the offense and injury.

The most extreme forgiveness is mercy. This is forgiveness given without having reasons to forgive or having deserved forgiveness. The only reason you have to forgive someone, and be merciful, is because forgiveness has a value in itself. Our mer- ciful forgiveness of others helps us be a reflection to others of a merciful God. It also may indicate a special friendship with Him.

Forgiveness may not appear as an act of pride, but an act of faith and discipline in which the wrenching process is shared, one that Jesus himself lived. But, this is the pro- cess that allows life to triumph and bear fruit: peace for others and ourselves.

We must forgive offenses and all kinds of damage. This imperative is grounded in the divine will. But, its need is based on human and holistic health reasons.

Anger management has useful principles that help us live the process of forgiveness. For example, it helps us to consider that “resent- ment is a poison you drink hoping that others die.” It also helps to think that our way of understand- ing life is full of distortions; that many of our reactions are the result of a wounded imagination. Most of our problems are only in our imag-ination and how we interpret the actions of others. There are times when there are objective offenses and damages, but it depends on how you handle the degree to which it affects us and how we respond with sound justice.

We need to learn to live, that is why we also learn by forgiving and being forgiven. We learn slowly and with love. We learn with self-under- standing and the under- standing of others. And, of course, we learn with a sense of humor. Good humor involves human maturity, but also faith.

Where do we learn to forgive? Right where we learn to love. The catechism highlights the privileged place for the family in paragraph 1657: “Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and a school for human enrichment. Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, genuine – even repeated – forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one’s life.”

Year of Mercy

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Parish and schools awarded fine arts grants

Sooner Catholic May 15, 2016   9

St. Mary’s School in Ponca City was awarded a 2016 Pastoral Music and Fine Arts Grant from the Catholic Foundation to purchase a new Clavinova Yamaha Digital Piano. Gathered around the piano with Luke Spiers seated are Grace Sawyer; Angela Bunch, piano teacher; Nichole Coughlin, Kirsten Goenrrs, music teacher; and Nicole Coughlin. The Grant was made possible by the generous contribution of the Bobbie Dean Little Trust.

CFO Board Member John Heiner presents two grant checks to Father William Nesser and St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center.

Pastoral Ministry Graduation

Four students recently celebrated graduation from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Pastoral Ministry Program at the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center.

The students, Deacon D.W. Hearn, Karen Kreger, Leng Liang and Rachel Perry earned bachelor’s degrees through the program from Newman University.

Photos Cara Koenig

Photos Dave Clark

Sooner Catholic May 15, 2016   8

Education

Sooner Catholic

Commentary

Sooner Catholic

May 15, 2016
Jobs Box

**Teachers - OKC**


**Librarian**

Mount St. Mary Catholic High School has a full-time opening for a qualified high school librarian. For information about the position, contact Talita DeNegri at tdenegri@mountstmary.org.

**Middle school science teacher**

Mount St. Mary Catholic School, lawton, is seeking a science teacher to teach 6th, 7th and 8th grade science, as co-teacher for Project Lead the Way robotics and design classes for the 2016-2017 school year. Applicants should hold a bachelor’s degree in education with Oklahoma certification. Download teacher application packet at www.archok.org/multimedia/files/doc_downloads/294-teacher-application-applicarion-packet.pdf. Send resume, cover letter and copy of teaching certificate to Nancy Post at nancy.post@stmarys-ok.org by mail to St. Mary Catholic School, 611 S.W. A’Vv., Lawton 73501. Call (580) 355-5288.

**Third grade teacher - Lawton**


**Middle school math teacher**

St. Mary Catholic School, Lawton, is seeking a math teacher to teach 6th, 7th and 8th grade math. Applicants should have a bachelor’s degree in education with Oklahoma certification, and be willing to employ differentiating learning strategies in the classroom. Download teacher application packet at www.archok.org/multimedia/files/doc_downloads/294-teacher-application-applicarion-packet.pdf. Send resume, cover letter and copy of teaching certificate to Nancy Post at nancy.post@stmarys-ok.org by mail to St. Mary Catholic School, 611 S.W. A’Vv., Lawton 73501. Call (580) 355-5288.

**Office manager**

Holy Angels Church is seeking a well-qualified office manager. Applicants should hold a bachelor’s degree in business administration from a Catholic university with a focus on management and computer skills. Applicants must have worked having worked in a similar position. Experience is fluent in English and Spnish. Experience working in non-profit or Catholic charitable benefits. Send resume to kamren@holyangels.org or call the office (405) 932-1705 or fax (405) 932-4153. Apply at www.archok.org/about-us/employment.

**Early childhood teacher**


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**Office manager**

St. Wenceslaus and St. Francis of Assisi School, 2507 S.W. A’Vv., Lawton 73501. Call (580) 355-5288.

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**Teachers - Kingfisher**

St. Peter and Paul Catholic School in Kingfisher is accepting applications for a full-time Catholic school teacher for the 2016-2017 school year. Applicants should hold at least a bachelor’s degree in education in state with appropriate state certification. Send resume, cover letter and copy of teaching certificate to Natalee Johnson, principal@stpatrick.kps.edu or by mail to St. Peter and Paul Catholic School, 309 S. Main, Kingfisher 73757. Download teacher application packet at www.archok.org/multimedia/files/doc_downloads/294-teacher-application-applicarion-packet.pdf.

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*Parish Secretary - St. Francis of Assisi School*

March 10, 2016

**GIVE A CATHOLIC SCHOLARSHIP - GET A TAX CREDIT**

**What could be easier?**

With an Oklahoma state income tax credit obtained by a gift to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund, every $2 you give, you’ll get a $1 state tax credit (Social Security or tax ID number is required for tax credit.)

**Gift**

- $2,000 Gift
- Federal Deduction – $1,000
- State Deduction – $1,000
- Tax Credit – $1,000

**Cost**

- $2,000

**SAVINGS OF $1,000!**

When St. Paul describes the gifts God has given the church, he includes teaching. “The number will vary, but he re’s an average of 3% of students in the 25 federal tax bracket.”

**Donation to McHenry (any amount)**

- $2,000 Gift
- Federal Deduction – $1,000
- State Deduction – $1,000
- Tax Credit – $1,000

**Donation to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund with a donation receipt**

- $2,000 Gift
- Federal Deduction – $2,000
- State Deduction – $2,000
- Tax Credit – $2,000

**Net Cost: $1,000**


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**Adolescentes espiritualmente indígenas**

Adolescentes espiritualmente indígenas dicen que fe fue fortalecida en celebración juvenil en Roma

Por Juan Arucho Estévez, Director de Prensa Archdiócesis de N. Florida

**Perdonar las ofensas**

El perdón más extremo es la Misericordia. Esta otorga el perdón casi “por” si. El único motivo que se tiene para disculpar a Misericordia a alguien, es solo el considerar que perdonar total-
mente y de manera diligente pero que merece ser castigado tiene un valor más en si mismo. En el Perdón en la Parábola de Misericordia se presenta una semejanza especial entre la humanidad y Dios. También puede indicar una especial amistad con El. El perdonar no puede aparecer como un acto de orgullo, de fe y de discipulado que se comparte al disci- par a, a veces, que recibió el mismo Jehová. En el proceso del perdón se manifies- tada que la Vida venas gracias a la fe: la Pura y propia. y ser perdonado. Pero el perdonar se comporta como una forma de querer ser perdonado en la medida que es más fáciles de otorgar depende- mos. El perdonar es una forma de querer ser perdonado en la medida que es más fáciles de otorgar depende.

Adolescentes espiritualmente indígenas dicen que fe fue fortalecida en celebración juvenil en Roma
Un oceán de lágrimas nos llama a la misericordia, a la compasión, dice el Papa

Por Cindy Woodland
Catholic News Service

El domingo 6 de mayo tuvo el privilegio de presidir una misa en la Basílica de San Pedro en Roma. El Papa Francisco le dijo a los más de 50 mil que acudieron, en las terrazas de la Basílica, una misa conmemorativa de la Conferencia Mundial de la Familia (CMF) celebrada en Philadelphia el pasado mes de septiembre, donde el Papa había pedido a los peregrinos que se junten en la oración y en el servicio.

Un llamado a la misericordia

El Papa recordó que en su homilía a los peregrinos, el Papa había pedido a los peregrinos que se junten en la oración y en el servicio.

Por Junno Arocho Esteves
Director Adjunto, Oficina de Ministerio Hispano

Un hermano para miles

El pasado mes de abril, el Papa Francisco nombró a Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley de Oklahoma City el nuevo obispo de Oklahoma City. El Papa habló sobre la importancia de la misericordia en la vida cristiana y los valores que debe tener el sacerdocio.

La oración y el servicio

El Papa Francisco ha pedido a los peregrinos que se junten en la oración y en el servicio.

La misericordia en la vida cristiana

El Papa Francisco ha pedido a los peregrinos que se junten en la oración y en el servicio.

El Pueblo de Dios

El Papa Francisco ha pedido a los peregrinos que se junten en la oración y en el servicio.

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Making a Difference conference
A conference for faithful response to Pope Francis’ encyclical letter “Laudato Si” on the environment and care for Creation. Call Mary Lyons at (405) 722-2110, Ext. 115. The Pope Francis Fan Club at St. Peter, Woodward, will host the second annual conference on April 9, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Epiphany. The conference is open to everyone interested in learning more about our environmental duty to care for Creation.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
A Montessori program for girls ages 3 to 12. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd provides words and materials to share the Bible’s Work of Redemption. Contact Angela Theisen at althiesen@epiphanyoc.org or call (405) 721-2300.

Special broadcast of Catholic Advocacy Day
A special one hour broadcast of the March 31 Catholic Advocacy Day will be on Fox 29 from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact Danny Parle, (405) 620-6328 or Dick Plittker, (405) 996-1826.

Corpus Christi procession
The Annual Corpus Christi procession, held in a different location each year, will host the annual Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, May 29. A processional line will begin in the sanctuary immediately following 9 a.m. Mass. Join in celebrating this glorious feast honoring the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Memorial Day Mass
There will be a Memorial Day Mass at 11 a.m. on May 30 at St. Patrick Cathedral in Lockridge on 234, between Council and Concord Line Road. Fr. Charles Murphy will officiate. Bring a covered dish and a lawn chair. Call Kathy Haskett Miller at (405) 446-4588.

Knights of Columbus pool attacks start May 20
The Santa Fe Family Life Center pool season begins on Memorial Day weekend (May 30) and runs through Labor Day. The pool offers lap swimming, swim lessons, open swim, flexible hours and a family membership. A family membership is $275 for the summer, individuals and couples $175. Knights of Columbus families can enjoy the pool and fitness center benefits for $29.95 per month. Call (405) 840-1817 or visit ksfc.ks-council.org. For more information, scan this barcode.

Study of “Laudato Si”
The Pope Francis Fan Club at St. Peter, Woodward, will study Francis’ encyclical letter “Laudato Si” on Monday, June 13, at 7 p.m. at the patios room at Epiphany, 7336 W. Parkline.

Brie's
The Alice Paul Group announce the first-ever Pro-Life Women’s Conference of Domestic Violence and Abuse on April 24-25, 2016, at Epiphany.

Monsignor William F. Corcoran, OSBA, will offer morning prayer at 8:30. Register online at www.makingadifferenceconference.com.

Special broadcast of Catholic Advocacy Day
A special one hour broadcast of Catholic Advocacy Day will be on Fox 29 from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact Danny Parle, (405) 620-6328 or Dick Plittker, (405) 996-1826.

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Experts educate Catholic parish staff, clergy about “grooming”

By Diane Clay,

Dozens of safe environment facilitators, principals, directors of religious education, parish staff members and clergy attended a special session on creating safe environments for children in the Church with specific instruction on the process of “grooming.”

Grooming is a process used by child predators to target children and increase the opportunity to sexually assault or abuse them. The in-service training at the Catholic Pastoral Center was led by child specialist Maria Rosales-Lambert with Oklahoma Interviewing Services and Special Agent Andi Hamilton with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

Participants learned about the types of offenders, how they groom their environment and how parents and teachers can be aware of contact via the Internet, cell phone apps and video game services.

In particular, the experts said the perpetrator is often someone who has peripheral access to the child such as a school janitor or someone they met online. Some perpetrators use their positions of power to confuse the child and keep him or her from disclosing the abuse.

Grooming behaviors include:
- Giving gifts;
- Flirting;
- Inappropriate calls, e-mails, texts;
- Keeping secrets;
- Attempting to groom parents to gain trust;
- Luring with rewards such as driving or drinking.

More information can be found online at www.nationalcac.org and at www.archokc.org and click on Offices, then Safe Environment.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.

To report suspected abuse:
Oklahoma statewide hotline
(800) 522-3511
Local police department
Archdiocesan Hotline
(405) 720-9878

To recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, Father Fuller led a school assembly in prayer at St. Philip Neri in Midwest City. Pre-school students released balloons with a prayer card attached and the remaining students tied blue ribbons to the school fence.

The Catholic Foundation
CORNERSTONE
Donate Highly Appreciated Stocks or Assets

With the holidays and the end of the year approaching, now would be a good time to discuss an alternative to a cash charitable donation. While it’s certainly worthwhile when you drop your loose change into the collection basket, there can be more tax beneficial ways to gift larger amounts.

It’s true that a check is the easiest way to make a charitable gift to your parish, but if an investor wants to make a gift and receive a bigger tax break, there is a better option. If an investor has held an appreciated stock or mutual fund for more than one year, they can donate those securities to the Catholic Foundation and receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities, and eliminate any capital gains assessments on the future sale of the securities. In some cases, that could be as much as 23.8 percent in addition to a savings on your Oklahoma income tax.

Is there a time when gifting appreciated securities does make good sense? Absolutely. If you’re unable to exactly establish when you bought a security or not able to easily determine the security’s cash basis, then it makes sense to donate the security. Or, if you have a large allocation of appreciated stock, then gifting some of it is a very good way to lower your risk exposure as well as further diversify your portfolio. And, if you can’t wait for “step up in basis” that occurs at death, then gifting the security is one viable option.

If you need income from your stock, consider using it to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity. You get income for the rest of your life. You get a partial tax deduction on the donation, and the Catholic Church will receive the residue of the annuity fund at your death.

For more information, contact the foundation office at:
The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Inc.
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405) 721-4115 www.cfook.org bsemtner@archokc.org

Please remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in your estate plans.